
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

PUBLIC NOTICE Draft Corrective Action Plan Freedom Boulevard Solvent Plume 1350 Freedom Blvd. & Vicinity, Watsonville

***Si desea obtener información en español,
póngase en contacto con Marina Perez al (916) 322-4265***

March 7, 2022

The Central Coast Water Board is the lead regulatory agency overseeing the investigation and cleanup of the former Don Heim & Son Dry Cleaner property located at 1350 Freedom Boulevard in Watsonville, California (Site). During past business operations, the former operators used a dry-cleaning chemical called tetrachloroethene (PCE) that spilled into soil and groundwater. The public notice is intended to notify you of proposed cleanup activities.

BACKGROUND

Former business practices at the Site resulted in PCE spilling onto the ground and into soil. The PCE in soil eventually moved to groundwater and PCE in groundwater flows slowly away from the Site towards the south. When chemicals such as PCE are released into soil and groundwater, these chemicals can produce vapors. These vapors can travel upward through the soil and enter buildings above. This process is known as vapor intrusion. Depending on the concentrations of a chemical in vapor, vapor intrusion may cause unhealthy indoor air quality. The purpose of this notification is to inform the public of cleanup plans to remove PCE from soil and groundwater so that it will no longer pose a significant risk to indoor air and the environment.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Soil and groundwater near the Site have been investigated and partially cleaned up. Plans to expand current groundwater cleanup include using *in situ* bioremediation. Bioremediation uses microbes that are injected into groundwater to help change harmful chemicals such as PCE into less toxic ones. The microbes will be injected below ground without having to excavate soil or pump out groundwater. In addition to the cleanup activities, select residents and businesses near the Site will be contacted in the coming months to participate in indoor air sampling activities to confirm that there is no significant vapor intrusion risk.

JANE GRAY, CHAIR | MATTHEW T. KEELING, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The public has 30 days to comment on the proposed PCE cleanup strategy, as summarized in this notice. A copy of the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) and CAP addendum are available on GeoTracker at the following website address:

<https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?surl=hoykc>

All interested parties are required to submit their comments to the Central Coast Water Board by **April 12, 2022**, for consideration. Comments should be addressed to:

Daniel Pelikan, P.G., C.Hg., Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Email: daniel.pelikan@waterboards.ca.gov; Phone: (805) 549-3880

YOUR DRINKING WATER

Homes in the neighborhood receive drinking water from the City of Watsonville. Your tap water is safe to drink and is regulated to make sure that your water meets state and federal standards for drinking water quality.

YOUR INDOOR AIR

Preliminary indoor air results show that chemicals in indoor air need to be cleaned up or tracked, but that you should not be alarmed regarding short-term exposure. This project is not related to the COVID-19 virus.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT PCE AND SITE INVESTIGATION:

PCE Fact Sheet:

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfags/tfacts18.pdf>

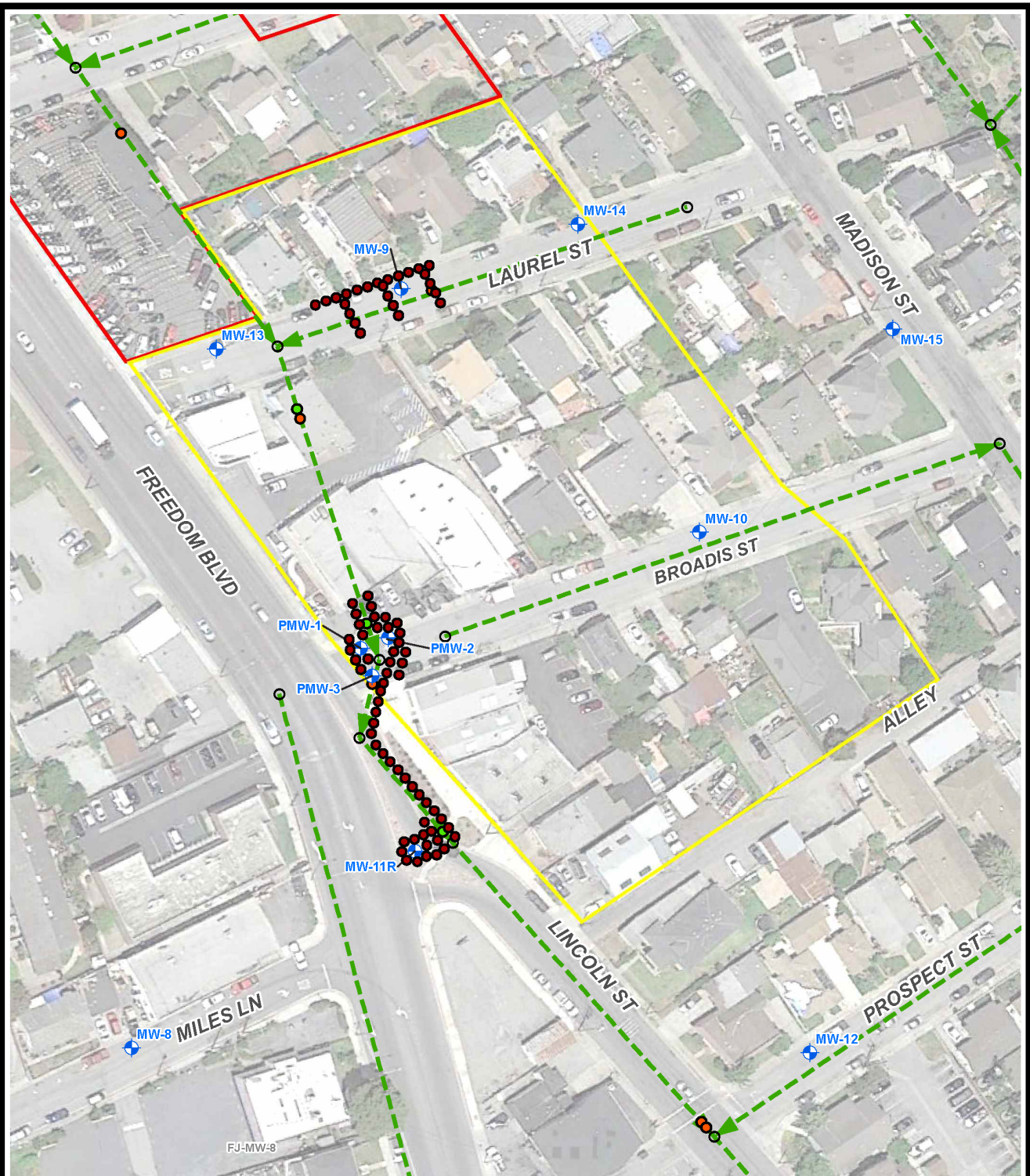
GeoTracker Database:

<http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/?gid=T10000006246>

Attachment A:

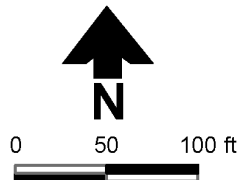
Figure 12 - Proposed Injection Points

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Explanation

- Monitoring well
- Manhole
- Sewer crack
- Sewer offset
- Approximate injection location
- Sewer line
- Onsite boundary
- Offsite boundary



Sources:

1. Building footprints from Santa Cruz County.
2. Sewer lines from City of Watsonville.
3. May 9, 2018 Google Earth imagery.
4. Sewer observations from WHA, 2013.



DBS&A
Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.
6/7/2021 DB20.1182

FREEDOM BOULEVARD OFFSITE Proposed Injection Points

Figure 12